

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

----- 123472

R 100835Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPSET

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7074

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 3401

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, HU

SUBJ: SIXTH CONGRESS OF HUNGARIAN PATRIOTIC PEOPLE'S FRONT

1. THE SIXTH CONGRESS OF HUNGARIAN PATRIOTIC PEOPLE'S FRONT (PPF) WAS HELD IN BUDAPEST SEPT 18-19. LAST CONGRESS HELD APRIL 1972. MOST SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF CONGRESS WAS EVIDENCE OF INCREASING COLLABORATION OF CHURCH AND STATE AND ACCEPTANCE BY CARDINAL LEKAI OF PPF PROGRAM (SEE SEPTTEL) BUT RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT TO COOPERATION WITH NON-COMMUNIST ELEMENTS OF POPULACE ALSO OF INTEREST.

2. CONGRESS RE-ELECTED OLD PPF LEADERSHIP INCLUDING GYULA KALLAI AS PRESIDENT, ISTVAN SARLOS AS SECRETARY GENERAL, AND SIX DEPUTY PRESIDENTS. THREE NEW MASS ORGANIZATION LEADERS ALSO ELEVATED TO POSITION OF DEPUTY PRESIDENT. NAMES REPORTED FBIS ALONG WITH CONGRESS DOCUMENTS AND SPEECHES MADE BY SARLOS AND KALLAI.

3. SEEMS EVIDENT FROM PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS THAT GOH
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CONTINUES REGARD PPF AS USEFUL INSTITUTION FOR MOBILIZING

NON-PARTY MEMBERS AND ORGANIZATIONS AND RETAINING PUBLIC SUPPORT DURING PERIOD OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTY. RECENTLY, GOH APPEARS TO BE ASSIGNING ADDITIONAL TASKS TO PPF WITH REGARD TO PENSIONERS, YOUTH, THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT, ADULT EDUCATION AND ELSEWHERE, IN ADDITION TO ITS PROPAGANDA FUNCTIONS AND ITS REAL IF NOT OVERLY INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN SOCIAL WORK, LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. THESE EXPANDING TASKS, THE OVERTURES TO CATHOLIC CHURCH IN PPF CONTEXT, THE STRESS ON LONG-TERM ROLE OF PPF (ACCORDING KALLAI, THE POLICY OF WORKER ALLIANCE IS NOT A TACTICAL STRATEGEM BUT A POLICY FOR THE LONG TERM), ALL INDICATE CHARACTERISTIC GOH CONCERN WITH OBTAINING AT LEAST PASSIVE SUPPORT AND AT BEST COOPERATION AND ACTIVE SUPPORT ON NON-POLITICAL MATTERS FROM MAJORITY OF HUNGARIANS WHO DO NOT BELONG TO HSWP. HARDY

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